



CORNER KICK

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June 2009 Issue

From The Pitch – Mike Nelson

Welcome to the second edition of Corner Kick, our monthly newsletter.

The month of June marked the beginning of our regular season game schedule – something I’m sure you are all anxiously awaiting. This year provided us with a few surprises as far as availability of fields.

As many of you are aware, the Fairport school district is beginning construction on additions and updates to our school facilities. The construction is slated to happen this summer, so a number of our fields are unavailable this year.

We’re losing access to three fields at Martha Brown (#s 7, 8 and 9), Brooks Hill goes offline at the end of May and Joanna Perin is now a prac-

tice only field this year. Not only does this cause scheduling difficulties for our practice and game schedules, but it also affects our tournament.

For the 2008 FSC tournament, we had 170 teams compete, while this year we have 156 registered. With these field closures, we feel this is an adequate number of teams and will be easier to manage.

Some of you have asked, "Why do we put on a club tournament?" A few thoughts come to mind:

- We derive revenue from the tournament, which helps subsidize club dues.
- We offer an opportunity to face teams not seen during league play.

- We provide this tournament to our entire club at no additional cost. Entry fee is offset by fees paid by participating teams.

- Club controls atmosphere of Tournament (Competitive levels, shootout activity for younger ages, teams entered into tournament).

And certainly, it’s an opportunity to socialize with other parents and children from Fairport teams and other soccer clubs.

With that said, we’re looking forward to another great season of Fairport soccer and a fantastic tournament. Good luck to everyone!

Inside this issue:

From The Pitch	1
FSC Tourney Update	1 & 2
Mother’s Day Scrimmage	2

Special Points of Interest:

We welcome any comments, questions and feedback on how we can improve this newsletter and the club in general. Please direct your comments and article ideas to fairportsoccer-club@yahoo.com.

2009 FSC Tournament Update

As many of you already know, each year the Fairport Soccer Club (FSC) organizes one of the largest soccer tournaments in the area. This year’s tournament is scheduled for July 10-12, and we expect more than 150 teams (32 Fairport teams)

to participate compared to a total of 170 last year, our highest total ever.

“We feel we are right on track with our numbers given we’ve lost a couple of fields this year to construction,”



said Eric Rand, tournament director for FSC. “We have a nice, diverse group of teams representing New York and even Canada.”

(continued—pg. 2)

2009 FSC Tournament Update—continued

Page 2 (continued article)

This year, there are three Canadian teams joining us – two Girls U19 division teams and one Boys U13. Fairport will also be host to teams from Philadelphia, NY, and Indian River Soccer (Northeast of Watertown), which is bringing five teams to our tournament.

Within New York, teams from Syracuse, Buffalo, Jamestown and Rome are also joining us. We also had requests this year from other teams in Pennsylvania and Ohio, but unfortunately, financial issues prevented them from travelling to our upstate region to compete.

“Year after year we get local, regional and now international teams

to participate because of our reputation of quality, competition and friendly atmosphere,” added Rand.

The tournament utilizes a combination of 15 school and town soccer fields within Perinton. These fields are used full-time from Friday at 6 p.m. through Sunday at 6pm. On Saturday evening, everyone is invited to attend a club –sponsored concert starting at 6:30pm at Center Park West. This year’s entertainment will be provided by Synergy Rock and Brass.

The success of the tournament relies heavily on our volunteer

base, comprised of parents of every player in the club. As many of you know, parents are scheduled for a minimum two-hour volunteer shift, and in some cases a second two-hour shift if more than one child is registered with the club.

“We like to see all teams represented on Saturday evening and invite friends and family to come enjoy the fun,” concluded

Rand. “Bring a picnic with you or purchase food and drink from our concessions - light dinner fare will be available. The kids have a great time playing soccer, and the parents enjoy music, socialization, and maybe a dance or two also.”



A Mother's Day Scrimmage

What better way to celebrate a soccer mom's special day than with a unique twist on the average scrimmage - a Mothers vs. Daughters showdown.

That’s exactly what took place this Mother's Day for the Fairport U9 Girls Firebirds and their families, when the girls and moms took to the pitch at Perinton Community Church (PCC) for an interesting competition.

“As soon as the girls found out about a scrimmage against their mothers, there was a fire that started within them and grew stronger with every practice,” said Firebirds Head Coach Todd Sheehan. “It was fun from a coach’s point of view, as any mention of playing their mothers the next week triggered new motivation and

entertaining reactions from the girls.”

After a brief practice on the big day, the scrimmage was underway and the Girls U9 Firebirds brought their “A” game to a match that will surely become an annual tradition.

According to Sheehan, “There were some moves on the field that had to be seen to be believed - and I'm sure there were some tired muscles and sore joints to prove it the next day. I think a few of the moms were ready for a break early on, but the girls wanted

more playing time, so everyone kept going.”

The game was tight throughout, and the score ended in a 3-3 tie.

Immediately following the game, the Firebirds and their families held a cookout at PCC.

“It was great to see everyone - players, parents, siblings - come together, enjoy each other’s company in a relaxed atmosphere,

and interact as more of a family than a typical sports team,” added Sheehan. “Although this game looks to become a Mother’s Day tradition, the Firebirds are talking rematch – and I doubt they’ll wait until next year.”



Picture provided by B. Ritter